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AGAWAM

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Baseball 12

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20 PAGES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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Mayor spars with councilor over car purchase

By Gregory A. Scibelli
*Turley Publications
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – Mayor Richard Cohen responded last week to accusations from a city councilor

about a recent vehicle purchase.

Agawam City Councilor Robert Rossi questioned the compost bins revolving account that is used to help provide trash and recycling bins for residents but is now taking in revenue from recycling pro-

grams.

Cohen recently purchased a new hybrid vehicle for professional use. The purchase was not approved by the city council, and Rossi said he believes the recycling funds were being misused.

At the June 23 budget hearing, Rossi accused the mayor of improperly spending the funds for his vehicle. Cohen responded saying he has not had a new vehicle in more than eight years, and his car was given to the police chief.

Cohen continued, stating money from the recycling program is supposed to go toward the purchase of hybrid, environment-friendly eco-cars.

Please see PURCHASE, page 6

Agawam 'enters the Haggis' once more for SummerFest 2014

By James Paleologopoulos
*Turley Publications
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – Ballads of wayfaring travelers and bagpipes were on the menu on Veterans Green last Wednesday, July 16, as Canadian Celtic rock band Enter the Haggis returned to Agawam for the town's annual SummerFest put on by the Agawam Cultural Council.

Playing two sets from 7-9:30 p.m., the band from Toronto belted out familiar tunes such as "Down with the Ship" and "Bury My Demons" as well as material from their newest album, "The Modest Revolution," while the Agawam Lions Club served up hamburgers and hotdogs and the Cultural Council held a raffle.

Playing the Agawam venue "for almost a decade" according to lead singer Brian Buchanan, the concert brought children and adults of all ages to the dance space in front of the stage with fans (known as "Haggis Heads") sporting the

Please see HAGGIS, page 11



The Agawam Lions Club have the grills going full steam as Alan Boissonneault, Scott Wheeler and Ronald Wiener cook hamburgers during the SummerFest concert series held last Wednesday, July 16.

Cohen: Golf course investigation 'unnecessary'

By Gregory A. Scibelli
*Turley Publications
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – Mayor Richard Cohen has responded to the resolution proposed by Agawam City Council President Christopher Johnson seeking an investigation into the business practices of the Agawam Municipal Golf Course, an enterprise operation owned by the town.

Johnson and fellow councilors Gina Letellier and Dennis Perry are sponsoring a resolution that would invoke a council rule allowing a study committee to be formed and the business practices of golf course to be questioned. The sub-committee would be able to investigate and make suggestions to the mayor as well as publish their findings.

Cohen said last week he believes an investigation into the golf course is completely unnecessary, and said there is no reason the city council needs to go looking for information that is mostly public.

"All of the financial records we have are public record," said Cohen. "The golf course is owned by the town and anyone can come in and look at their numbers."

Cohen continued, saying the city councilors receive regular reports on the golf course.

"The auditor is hired by the city council and she supplies them with regular expenditure reports," he said.

Letellier called Cohen and the management of the golf course to task during the FY2015 budget process, which concluded in late

Please see COURSE, page 6



Easthampton-based author Ellen Meeropol leads a fiction writing workshop at the Agawam Public Library. The six-week program runs through Aug. 19.

Fictional stories evolving at Agawam Public Library

By James Paleologopoulos
*Turley Publications
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – The Agawam Public Library's meeting room was filled with the sounds of pens scratching at paper, shaping plots and giving characters life as the six week-long "Growing a Story" fiction writing workshop kicked off its first session, led by Easthampton writer Ellen Meeropol, on Tuesday, July 15.

For two hours, a dozen writers took part in various exercises ranging from setting a scene to creating multiple characters and their own personalities, all while under a strict "no apologies" policy from Meeropol, who stressed expression and no self-limitations when writing creatively.

"There will be no apologies for our words," she said as the group read their works aloud. "They are what they are."

Please see WRITING, page 6



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Charity car show to help fund Grange accessibility project

By Mike Lydick

Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM – Antique cars, muscle cars, pickup trucks, hot rods and customized cars of various makes, models and years will rumble into the parking lot of EB's Restaurant this Sunday, July 27, for an annual charity car show sponsored by the Crankers Antique Car Club (CACC).

The show will be held rain or shine from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is a \$10 tax-deductible entry fee for vehicles, but no charge for spectators. EB's is offering discount coupons to anyone attending the show.

CACC – one of oldest car clubs in Massachusetts – was formed in 1958 by Agawam resident Richard "Dick" Chapman. His goal was to create a family-oriented club that would support community charities while promoting the classic car hobby. Chapman, 86, is still active with the club, and his mission to use vintage cars to benefit local causes is why CACC holds its annual show. Each year the club chooses a different group as the beneficiary of its fund-raising efforts.

Grange needs handicap ramp

Proceeds from this year's show will be used by the Community Grange of Feeding Hills to build a handicap access ramp at its building on Northwest Street. The building that houses the Grange hall is considered a historical site. It was built in 1872 and served as a one-room school house known as the North West Street School. The school, which closed when the town built the Granger Elementary School in 1949, was purchased by the Grange in 1951 and dedicated as the new hall in 1953.

Pauline Sosnowich, secretary of the Grange, said agriculture and community service are the main objectives of the Grange. The Grange's roots are in agriculture, but the non-profit organization now concentrates more of its efforts on community service projects.

"The Community Grange has provided scholarships to graduating high school students, purchased an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the senior center, donated to various organizations in town, and held



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

The annual Crankers Antique Car Club show will roll into the parking lot at EB's Restaurant this Sunday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Past shows – such as the one in 2012 shown here – have drawn a wide array of vintage vehicles that have attracted large crowds. Proceeds will go toward the construction of a handicap-accessible ramp at the Community Grange of Feeding Hills.



Proceeds from the Crankers Antique Car Club show will be used by the Community Grange of Feeding Hills to build a handicap-accessible ramp at its building on Northwest Street. Considered a historical site, the building was purchased by the Grange in 1951 and had served as the one-room North West Street School.

food drives for the Open Pantry," she said.

Some of the other Grange projects have included sponsoring bloodmobiles, collecting eyeglasses and hearing aids for the needy, donating homemade, stuffed animals to children's hospitals, and knitting hats and booties

for premature babies in local hospitals.

A 'worthy endeavor'

One of the last remaining Granges in the area, it doesn't receive any state or federal funding. "We decided that any help we could give to improve the Grange building or pro-

vide better access to those who need it was a worthy endeavor," said Tory De Prille, CACC president.

The late 1800s building is not handicap-accessible. Sosnowich said Grange members would like to build a ramp to make the building easier to use by those who have disabilities. She doesn't know how much the project will cost because the Grange has not gotten any estimates yet.

The car show raises money through vehicle entry fees and raffle tickets for items donated by local and national businesses. Past shows have attracted between 50 and 75 vehicles and contributed more than \$1,000 annually for various community causes.

CACC, a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization, has raised funds for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Springfield, the Lions Club, the local chapter of the Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans, and has participated in local parades, shows at nursing homes and similar community events.

Please see CAR SHOW, page 5

Citizens' Legislative Seminar: First come, First served

By Christopher Faille

Turley Publications Correspondent

BOSTON – State senators and their staff offer a valuable learning experience to members of the public twice each year, an experience known as the Citizens' Legislative Seminar. Designed to give residents of the state a hands-on experience of the workings of state government, CLS culminates in a simulated legislative hearing and Senate session.

Residents of the 2d Hampden and Hampshire district who would like to participate should contact the office of Senator Don Humason by Thursday, Aug. 28, and ask Sen. Humason to nominate them to participate as a seminar participant and mock Senator. Participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Nominees must be able to attend both days of the two-day event.

"I encourage all those who are interested in how our government works to participate," Humason said in a release.

Humason's district includes Agawam, Holyoke, Westfield, Blandford, Chester, Granville, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Tolland, Easthampton, Southampton and parts of Chicopee.

These seminars began in 1976 as a collaborative effort of the state Senate and the University of Massachusetts. They have since taken place each spring and fall. This fall's event, the 73rd CLS, has been scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 14, and Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Statehouse in Boston.

The seminar, which will include presentations by senators and their staff, takes in the "History of the Legislature," "The Formal Legislative Process," "The Informal Legislative Process," "The Budget," "The Parliamentary Role of the Clerk of the Senate," and "The Future of the Legislature."

Further, the subjects discussed in the mock sessions do sometimes anticipate actual legislation. In the spring of 2007, for example, the CLS debated a bill that would have banned the use of hand-held cell phones in motor vehicles.

Please see SEMINAR, page 5

Hearing Test Set for Senior Citizens

Announcement-
Free electronic hearing tests will be given from Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm at Avada Hearing Care Centers at 9 locations in Western Mass. Call to find the location nearest to you. The test has been arranged for anyone who suspects they are not hearing clearly. People who usually say they can hear but have trouble with understanding words are encouraged to come in for the tests. The testing includes newly-developed tests that determine your ability to hear speech in noisy environments. Everyone, especially those over 55 who have trouble hearing words clearly, should have a test annually. Demonstrations of the latest devices to improve clarity of speech will be available, on the spot, after the tests. You can HEAR for yourself if the latest methods of correction will help you understand words better.

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Opinion

Night Out a wealth of knowledge

AGAWAM – On Aug. 5, the Agawam Police Department is holding the National Night Out event to help bring together the police department, crime prevention agencies and groups, and the community.

It would be to your benefit to attend and bring your children along with you. There are so many hidden resources that you can find at this type of an event. If you have not taken your children to an event where public safety is on display, you really should.

Children in any community should spend time getting to know several of their Agawam police officers. All people should know that their police department is there for them and are working to keep them safe.

No matter what town you live in, there is crime, and as we have seen by some of the many tragedies that have happened in the past few years with shootings and other violence, our first responders are such a crucial part of the infrastructure in the community.

Attending the National Night Out at Agawam High School is one way you can make a connection to the police department. You can interact with police officers and get to know who is patrolling your streets and who is driving by your house.

Police officers have a very difficult job and it is constantly being complicated by newer laws and regulations, and mountains of reports and paperwork, similar to teachers.

Among the many activities and booths that will be available is fingerprinting for children. This is a crucial step you should take on a yearly basis for your children to ensure their information is up-to-date, along with file photos that can be used in the event a child is taken or in danger.

Public safety is not just the responsibility of the police department. We all should feel responsible for our safety. The police department has knowledge and resources they can share with you at this event. Knowledge is power, and everyone should know what is going on in the world around them. Perhaps there's a new phone scam happening, or maybe there is a rash of break-ins in town or a surrounding town people should be mindful of. There should be a wealth of information at this event.

So if you are able to stop by, take some time and enjoy the mid-summer event. If you have not had the opportunity to interact with your local police, you can gain an appreciation for how much these officers care about making your life safe in a community like Agawam.

2014 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



PHONE
413.786.7747
Fax: 413.786.8457

EMAIL
Advertising Sales
John Baskin
jbaskin@turley.com

Office Manager
Teri Machia
aan@turley.com

Interim Editor
Tim Kane
tkane@turley.com

Subscriptions
Charlann Griswold
cgriswold@turley.com

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PATRICK H. TURLEY Publisher

KEITH TURLEY
Executive Vice President

DOUGLAS L. TURLEY
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Got a blimp? Save the seeds!

Last year when my mom was cleaning up her cucumber patch, she found the one that got away. It was a blimp of a pickler, all swollen and yellow. Knowing that I was interested in saving the seeds of any vegetable that I could, she sent it my way. I asked the necessary questions first, to try and ensure that the seeds I would save from this fruit would come true-to-type: "Did you grow any other varieties of cucumber in your garden?" "No." "Did your neighbors grow any cukes in theirs?" "Not that I know of." This was just what I wanted to hear- no cucumbers nearby meant that I would end up with just what she grew, "National Pickling," not a cross between it and something else.

I let the blimp sit for a few weeks longer to fully ripen. Then I sliced it in half from top to bottom and scooped out the seeds. Just like those of tomato, cucumber seeds are enclosed in a gelatinous sac that acts as a germination inhibitor. To get rid of the sac from either of these, the seeds need to go through a process of fermentation. It sounds tricky, but is really quite simple. Combine all of the goopy seeds and put them in a canning jar. If some of the seeds are not submerged, add a small amount of water and stir it all up. Position a piece of wax paper on top of the jar and secure with a rubber band around the rim. Poke a few holes in it and place the jar in a spot where temps are in the 70's or low 80's. Stir

a couple times a day to encourage separation of the sac from the seed. In two or three days you will notice that the majority of the seed has sunk to the bottom of the jar.

Now it is time to clean and dry the seeds for next year's use. I simply poured off as much of the liquid as I could from the top of the jar, then dumped what was left into a sieve and ran cool water over it. Once I was left with just the seed, I blotted off the excess liquid with a paper towel, then poured the rest on to a dry one as thinly as possible. I let them sit for a week or more in an airy spot, and once they were completely dry I peeled them from the paper towel and put them in an envelope marked with the variety and date. The envelope joined the others in my seed stash.

Fast forward to this spring. Just for the fun of it I performed a germination test on the seed back in February to see if it was viable – that way I would know whether or not to waste my time planting it in the garden. I put five seeds in a pot with soil and positioned them by the wood stove. Sure enough all of the seeds sprouted. I also had great germination when I sowed a row in the garden this May. They are climbing up my trellis at record speed and are loaded with tiny fruit. In a week or so we will be enjoying cukes in our salads, and maybe, just maybe, a batch or two of pickles will line the shelves of our pantry. All thanks to Ma's blimp.



ROBERTA MCQUAID
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
COLUMNIST

'It's my grief, please do not try and take it away from me'

By Rev. Domenic K. Ciarella

All too often those who grieve find themselves becoming the recipients of unsolicited advice. Instead of acknowledgement of our sadness or a compassionate and empathetic invitation to share our feelings, we are urged to move on, grieve in private, or perhaps told we should not feel a certain way or should act differently. We who grieve are not the problem. The problem lies with those who because of false notions about grief or because our emotions make them uncomfortable try to change the way we grieve. We hear the uncomfotting advice that we should be moving on; we are taking too long to grieve; we should grieve in private; we are grieving too intensely; or not grieving the proper way.

How we grieve is unique to us. Our grief is

personal and rightfully belongs to us. No one has the right to try to remove our grief, nor offer advice that devalues the sadness our grief carries. Each of us is unique. We are shaped by our cultural values, our spiritual beliefs; our emotional makeup; our personality type; our grief also reflects the intensity and quality of the relationship with that of those no longer present in our life. There are many dynamics to our grief that reflect our individual coping styles. Some of us are more reflective. Some are more cerebral. Some struggle with emotions. Some are more resilient.

Our losses are also distinct. The loss might be sudden, unexpected or perhaps traumatic. A loss might follow a long illness where the loss is anticipated but still catches us with a jolt of surprise.

Please see GRIEF, page 5

Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

SEMINAR, from page 3

in the state.

Three years later, Massachusetts became the 30th state in the country to restrict cell phone use in a motor vehicle sharply: banning all such use by drivers 16 and 17 years old, as well as any texting by a driver of any age.

All residents in the 2nd Hampden and Hampshire District are invited to contact Humason's office at (413) 568-1366 or Donald.Humason@MASenate.gov by Thursday, Aug. 28, in order to be nominated.

GRIEF, from page 4

There are losses where there has been long suffering and we feel relief. Other losses might come in rapid succession where we find we don't have time to grieve the first much less the most recent. We might find we put off our grief due to the fact we are still caring for a family member or need to take care of personal needs. For some the loss might be their first encounter with the grief process. For others, grief is not new and they might rely on their previous experiences to offer solace, confidence in their coping ability and a validation of their unique grieving style.

The individuality of loss and the grief response is something to be valued; appreciated as a reflection of the particular coping style that provides comfort and opportunity for healing each of us incorporates and allows us to express and honor our grief. This process is not to be interrupted by other's opinions, unsolicited advice, or judgments.

As grievers we will encounter the well meaning advice of family members or friends. While the advice might be well meaning, often it is more reflective of the individual being uncomfortable with our grief; or our emotional outburst; or simply their not knowing how to help. When such advice is heard, our first reaction might be that our personal boundary has been violated. We might feel judged. We might feel conflicted as we desire to be polite yet do not want to be pushed into accepting advice that is not helpful.

How we grieve and the choices we make in expressing and validating our grief are ours to make. When we hear advice that is not helpful we can say thank you and then choose what is best for us. We do not need to be pushed into hurrying, denying, or interrupting our grief.

In the process of living out our grief we need those who can be true companions: those who are willing to honor and validate our grief and take their cue from us. Some of us find we might cry often. We desire those who can be with us without finding our tears uncomfortable. We might desire to openly reflect on the choices we have made. We want to be listened to; not judged or told how we should act or be. When we are uncertain we need time to question and reflect without feeling the pressure to make a decision influenced by what others feel we should do, or act or be. Sometimes we need a person who is willing to be our sounding board; one who is empathetic, respectful not dictatorial.

Should we find that our grief is becoming unbearable or made complicated by factors we can not seem to identify, acknowledge, or are just too painful I hope we are comfortable in seeking help. A companion we trust is one who will listen carefully and respond honestly. One who can offer the supportive suggestion that perhaps a professional counselor might be considered or the griever might look into joining a bereavement support group. The choice is ours to make. We need not be pushed around, nor should we allow ourselves to be pushed.

Remember, the goal is not to allow our grief to be taken for us. Our goal is to be receptive to help that will allow us to truly explore all dimensions of our grief and ultimately heal in a way that restores our sense of well being.

The Rev. Domenic K. Ciarella is Hospice Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator with Wing Hospice. He is a certified grief Recovery Specialist and Certified Pastoral Care Specialist (American Association of Pastoral Counselors).

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THE LAST RIDE...

Turley Publications courtesy photo

Pictured taking their last ride on the Cyclone Rollercoaster at Six Flags New England Sunday, July 20 are, from left, Alan Cohen, Agawam High School guidance counselor; Shelly Reed, Agawam School Committee member; Mike Reed; Mayor Richard A. Cohen; and John Winkler, president of Six Flags New England.

CAR SHOW, from page 3**Hoping for a large turnout**

"Our past shows have been pretty successful. We would love to be able to present the Grange with adequate funds to build a ramp for their facility, but turnout is everything," De Prille said.

He said CACC shortened the show by one hour this year "so people can enjoy the rest of their day and not bake themselves in the parking lot if it's hot." De Prille said weather and atten-

dance are crucial factors for any charity car show.

"Summer is a busy time for car shows and there are other car events on the same day as ours; that can never be avoided," he said. "Hopefully, car collectors will come out to our fundraiser and again support the local community."

Sosnowich said the Grange promoted the event at its annual strawberry festival in June and posted a flyer in its meeting hall. "I anticipate that members of the Grange will be at the event

to show our support for Crankers," she said.

Anyone displaying a vehicle or making a donation will be eligible to vote in two of three categories: Best of Show and Most Original. The third award, the President's Award, will be selected by De Prille. CACC member vehicles are ineligible for this award. Winners in each category will receive trophies.

For more information about the show or displaying a vehicle, contact De Prille at 977-3762 or via email: info@crankersantiquecarclub.com.

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Red Cross announces blood drives

The American Red Cross encourages all eligible blood donors to make an appointment to donate blood soon to help prevent a shortage. During the summer months, on average, about two fewer donors give blood at each Red Cross blood drive than what is needed to meet the needs of patients. Vacations and summer activities are among the reasons regular donors may not find the time to give. But, patients don't get a vacation from needing blood – the need is constant.

Blood drives will take place Monday, Aug. 4, from 1-7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., and Tuesday, Aug. 5, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St.

As a national network, the Red Cross has a unique responsibility to help ensure blood is available for patients whenever and wherever it is needed. By donating blood or platelets through the Red Cross, donors may be helping patients in their community or patients across the nation. Red blood cells have a shelf life of only 42 days and platelets just five days, so they must constantly be replenished.

To learn more and make an appointment to donate blood, visit redcrossblood.org or call (800) RED-CROSS.

In the Classroom

Local students named to honor roll

WILBRAHAM — The following students from Agawam and Feeding Hills have been named to the Wilbraham & Monson Academy honor roll for the third trimester of the 2013-2014 academic year:

Highest Honors — Katelyn H. Cronin, Grade 9; Honors — Nicholas J. Gourley, Grade 8; Sophia M. Gourley, Grade 11; Dylan C. Lattell, Grade 9; Benjamin J. Ochola, Grade 11; and Timothy B. Regnier, Grade 10.

Campus Notes...

Rochester Institute of Technology: Zachary Niziolek, of Feeding Hills, graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree in biotechnology and molecular bioscience from RIT's College of Science.

Western New England University: Adam Brown, Joeanna Glantz, Alyssa McNair, Brandon Opitz and Christina Raus, of Agawam; and Christopher Goralczyk, Caitlin Heer, Adrianna Martinez, Michael Masciadrelli, and Lindsey Westlund, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester president's list.

Tyler Coughlin, Taylor Coulter, Maura Curran, Hee Sun Kim, Kyle LaFoe, Jugal Marfatia, James Rindinelli, Emily Roundy, and Mark Walker, of Agawam; and Megan Alaimo, Dalton Boglisch, Cedrick Giberson, Amy Grindle, Amanda Rose and Jeffrey Rovatti, of Feeding Hills, were named to the spring semester dean's list.

Worcester State University: Scott R. Freriere, of Feeding Hills, was named to the spring semester dean's list.

Cohen: Golf course investigation 'unnecessary'

COURSE, from page 1

June. Letellier sought to take money out of the golf course budget because she saw the 2014 budget would be back-filled by taxpayer money because of a loss in revenues. The motion was not passed, but Letellier said she has a lot of questions about the practices at the golf course.

Cohen said the golf course budget is set each year by the amount of revenue that is received in the previous year. In the past few years, the golf course budget has been cut. It was cut by nearly \$100,000 from FY2014 to this year.

"Everything we do has to be certified by the Department of Revenue," said Cohen.

In recent months, the golf course has been working to improve. The city council approved spending \$300,000 to purchase new golf carts for the course. The carts had reached the end of their lifespan and many of them were becoming inoperable.

The council approved the new cart purchase but stipulated the money should be paid back to the town over time because the golf course should be able to afford the carts on their own. The Golf Commission had blamed some of their struggles on the lack of available carts.

Cohen says he does not believe the course is being mismanaged and says there are 11 other golf courses in a 10-mile radius to compete with.

"We have a lot of golf courses around here," Cohen said. "In a time where municipal golf courses are closing left and right, we are up and running and providing quality service at an affordable price," said Cohen.

The city council will vote next month whether or not to allow a sub-committee to investigate the course.

With improved weather this year, Cohen said the June 2014 revenues were about \$35,000 higher than June 2013.

Fictional stories evolving at Agawam Public Library

WRITING, from page 1

The first of six sessions scheduled for every Tuesday through Aug. 19, "setting and scene" was the opening week's theme with Meeropol leading discussions on the value of literary elements such as first- and third-person narration, the significance of focusing on details and word choices, giving participants a broader pallet to work with.

Comprised of brief lectures followed by 10-15 minute writing sessions, participants were given the opportunity to read their material out loud to the group and receive praise and constructive criticism to help sharpen their skills.

For Debra Quesnette, of Southwick, who said she intends to come to every session, it was a great opportunity to get the kind of feedback that only comes from a group of writers working together.

"I've always been interested in writing, and I thought getting some formal workshop time would help me firm it up and have fun with it," she said. "This week's session was very good. It made me not worry so much about what I was saying and instead just put it down to think about later."

Some came to the first session for feedback while others came to write for the very first time, said Meeropol, a former nurse practitioner who entered the literary world in 2011 with her debut novel, House Arrest. Many of the writers who came varied in experience, she said, but ultimately, their goals blended well for the first week as no one shied from sharing their work and opinions.

"I think it went really well; people were very engaged and interested," Meeropol said. "With a group this big, it takes a while for the group itself to become comfortable. I think we made a good start, so I'm really happy about that."

Invited back by the library to lead the group after having a successful "Author Talk" session last Winter discussing House Arrest, Meeropol believes the sessions will serve those with experience writing well as she covers familiar tools of the trade while also benefiting newcomers with lessons on the elements of fiction, particularly the ability to express emotion and ideas through characters and scenes.



Irish McGrath, left, and Debra Quesnette fill their notebooks as the class goes through a writing exercise.



Richard Ouellette, Jr., center, takes notes as Richard Ouellette, Sr., looks on.

"For new people, learning about elements of the craft of fiction (writing) can be really important, so that's why every week I deliver a mini-lecture on the craft," she said. "The discussion and the writing exercises are all related to that craft."

Further sessions for the summer workshop are set to cover elements such as "Character Development," "Plot and

Conflict," "Dialogue," and other cores of fiction writing with more information available at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Meeropol herself is also expecting to have some new writing done as well with a political thriller titled On Hurricane Island on the boil for 2015, dealing with the kidnapping and false imprisonment of a math professor branded as a terrorist.

Mayor spars with councilor over car purchase

PURCHASE, from page 1

"Under the town's policy, which was developed by the Energy Commission, the town is supposed to purchase energy-efficient vehicles whenever we can," Cohen said.

Cohen said the town has purchased eight hybrid vehicles, and he believes Rossi only attacked this vehicle purchase because it was the mayor's car.

"This car was purchased without using taxpayer money," said Cohen. "It comes from tipping fees and revenue from recycling. That fund is also used to provide the recycling bins and services like the hazardous waste collection days."

Rossi said he believes the account is being used as a "cash cow." As of the end of June, there was more than \$237,000 in the account.

Cohen passed on his old vehicle to the new police chief. The vehicle, in

eight years, only accumulated 44,000 miles. Cohen says his vehicle is only used for municipal purposes. He has another vehicle available for personal use during non-working hours. He also says he pays taxes on the city-owned vehicle he uses.

Rossi complained that eight vehicles, totaling \$278,000, have been paid for with funds from the compost bins account without any oversight.

"Not one of those purchases came through this body (the city council)," said Rossi.

Cohen maintains that he is fiscally conservative with taxpayer funds. The recycling program money is being used for the purpose it was meant for, and he is following the Energy Commission's recommendation of switching the town to hybrid vehicles. He says Rossi was a member of the Energy Commission when that policy was established.

Cohen says the hybrid vehicles are

supposed to save an average of 310 gallons per year, a savings of about \$1,000 in fuel costs for the town. He also said the hybrid vehicles owned by the town only need to be inspected one time per year. Non-hybrid vehicles are inspected three times per year. The DPW superintendent and the fire chief are among those now using hybrid vehicles owned by the town.

Cohen said the town is audited internally and independently. They are certified by the Department of Revenue and the purchases of the hybrid cars, including his, have all been done properly.

Cohen and Rossi had a heated exchange at the budget meeting last month. Rossi says he believes the recycling program funds are being improperly placed in the compost bins line item. Town officials are currently researching whether recycling program funds will be separated into different revolving accounts.

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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 62 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from July 15 to July 21.

On July 15 at 6:30 a.m., the department responded to Walnut Street Ext. for false alarm or false call, other.

On July 15 at 9:40 p.m., the department responded to Meadow Street for arcing, shorted electrical equipment.

On July 16 at 9:37 a.m., the department responded to Country Road for public service assistance, other.

On July 16 at 4:20 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On July 16 at 6:48 p.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On July 17 at 12 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On July 17 at 10:45 a.m., the department responded to William Street, dispatched and canceled en route.

On July 17 at 1:29 p.m., the department responded to Hunt Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On July 17 at 2:46 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for lockout.

On July 17 at 4:55 p.m., the department responded to Route 57 rotary for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On July 18 at 5:24 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On July 18 at 6:32 a.m., the department responded to Meadow Street for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On July 18 at 4:20 p.m., the department responded to Almgren Drive for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On July 18 at 4:28 p.m., the department responded to River Road for motor vehicle

accident with injuries.

On July 19 at 2:10 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On July 19 at 10:56 a.m., the department responded to Cynthia Place for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On July 19 at 1:40 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On July 19 at 10:46 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On July 21 at 5:16 a.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street to assist invalid.

On July 21 at 12:36 p.m., the department responded to Elm Street for public service.

On July 21 at 4:53 p.m., the department responded to Poplar Street for smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 325 calls for service from July 17 to July 22. The department made 9 arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Thursday, July 17

Joseph D. Prova, 29, of 51 Faymore Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Friday, July 18

Glenn R. Collins, 43, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Saturday, July 19

Nicholas Galcenski, 26, of 268 Granville Road, Westfield, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

A juvenile from Worcester was arrested on charges of domestic assault and battery, assault and battery on a police officer and disorderly conduct.

Sunday, July 20

Joseph D. Prova, 29, of 51 Faymore Drive, Agawam, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of drugs, operating a motor vehicle with license revoked, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, two counts of possession of Class B drug, possession of Class A drug, and use of a motor vehicle without authority.

Gregory Brosseau, 23, of 231 Prescott Hill Road, Peterborough, N.H., was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

Steven P. Nadeau, 36, of 28 Marlene Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

Trevor Murphy, 20, of 25 Holbrook St., Norfolk, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Monday, July 21

Jonathan B. Maynard, 35, of 15 Barbara Lane, Feeding Hills, was arrested on charges of operating a motor vehicle with registration suspended subsequent offense, and operating a motor vehicle with license suspended.

Seniors

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, July 28: Beef barley soup, baked potato topped with vegetable chili, cantaloupe.

Tuesday, July 29: Roast turkey sandwich, lettuce and tomato, coleslaw, baked good.

Wednesday, July 30: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, pudding.

Thursday, July 31: Chicken supreme with a white sauce, roasted sweet potatoes, corn, diced pears.

Friday, Aug. 1: Sweet potato-crusted cod, Mediterranean sauce, peas, rice, peaches.

Senior Center's weekly calendar of events

Monday, July 28: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 5 p.m., No Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, July 29: Summer Exercise program; 9 a.m., Shuffleboard at St. John's; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("Last Vegas"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance.

Wednesday, July 30: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m.,

Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Free concert with Donna Lee as Connie Francis, Bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, July 31: Summer Exercise Program; 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch.

Friday, Aug. 1: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., No Zumba Gold.

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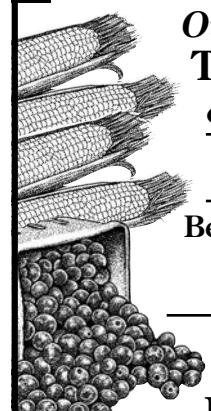
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Families

engagement
announcement

Jacqueline Svadeba to wed Paul Eshleman

Mr. and Mrs. John Svadeba, of Feeding Hills, and Mr. and Mrs. James Eshleman, of Yucaipa, Calif., are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, Jacqueline Natasha Svadeba, to Paul Edward Eshleman.

Jacqueline is a 2005 graduate of Agawam High School. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in sociology. While there, she was a student athlete and member of the inaugural acrobatics and tumbling team. She is currently employed as the head acrobatics and tumbling coach at Alderson Broaddus University.

Paul is a 2008 graduate of Redlands East Valley High School in California. He also attended the University of Oregon, where the couple met. He was a talented student athlete at Oregon, where he was a catcher on the school's baseball team. He was drafted in 2012 by the Milwaukee Brewers and is presently playing for the Brewers' Minor League farm team, the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers.

An October 2014 wedding is planned.



Turley Publications courtesy photo
**Jacqueline Svadeba
and Paul Eshleman**

Agawam Library offers summer adult programs

The Agawam Public Library will host the following adult programs:

Thursday, July 31, 7 p.m. – "Nature Photography" presented by Naturalist John Green. Green will present a nature photography slideshow that features landscapes, water, flowers, birds and fireflies, all the way from Newfoundland and Southern Quebec, Alaska, seven western states, Florida and northern New England, with most of the photos from the Connecticut River Valley. Green still uses film and no flash when taking his photos.

Green has been photographing nature for over 40 years. He's been featured on television and his print work has been exhibited widely throughout the Pioneer Valley. An interpretive naturalist, he is skilled in bird and plant identification and has a working knowledge of mammals, insects, reptiles and amphibians. He teaches workshops in

nature photography and leads nature walks throughout the Pioneer Valley.

Monday, Aug. 11, 6:30 p.m. – "The ABC's of Genealogy" presented by Dave Robison of Old Bones Genealogy. This program will include information on how to get started and make a plan, sources and websites, becoming a family history "detective," organizing data and family tree software, what you may uncover and what to do with it, and interviewing relatives to preserve history.

Participants will receive templates for family group sheets and pedigree charts, sample census records as well as the contents of various census records from 1790-1940.

Robison has been researching his family tree since 1998.

To register for any of the above programs, call 789-1550, ext. 4, or register online at www.agawamlibrary.org.

Family series continues at Springfield Museums

SPRINGFIELD – The "Summer Spectacular Family Series" at Springfield Museums continues during the week of July 28. The six-week series includes a host of programs and events every weekday through Aug. 15. All programs and performances are free with admission unless otherwise noted.

Each week, top-tier performers from around the region will appear at 1 p.m. in the Davis Auditorium on "Wonderful Wednesdays," "Tanglewood Thursdays," and "Fantastic Fridays." Performances during week four of the series include the humorous mime stories of Comic Mime Theater with Robert Rivest (Wednesday, July 30), An Arabian Adventure by Tanglewood Marionettes (Thursday, July 31), and BubbleMania: Comedy with a Drip! with Casey Carle (Friday, Aug. 1).

During each week of the Spectacular, there will also be live reptile demonstrations on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m., interactive "Music in the Museums" programs for parents and children ages 0-5 (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11-11:45 a.m.), and Dinosaur Trivia (Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Admission is \$18 for adults, \$12 for seniors and college students, and \$9.50 for children ages 3-17. Admission is free for members of the Springfield Museums and for Springfield residents with proof of address. Active duty military personnel and their families with proper identification are also free through the Blue Star Museums program. Free, secure onsite parking is available.

For more information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

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Turley Editorial Coverage Policies

CALENDAR

This section is intended to promote "free" events or ones that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization that benefits the entire community. Paid events that are not deemed fund-raisers or benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. Deadlines vary with each individual newspaper, look inside for your deadlines. We usually print one week in advance of an event, and the listings should be brief, with only time, date, location, brief activity explanation, and contact info. The best thing to do is emulate a calendar listing you like that already appeared in the paper. Each editor directly manages and edits all of the calendar entries. Artwork or photos to compliment your calendar listings are always welcomed.

EDUCATION

We try to be inside our public schools on a weekly basis, both in terms of sports coverage and classroom features. Our education and sports sections run 52 weeks per year. We feel school coverage is probably the single largest reflection of the communities we serve, so this paper is committed to having a strong presence there. We devote more staff and space to these sections than any other editorial realm. We do print free courtesy stories, briefs and photos submitted by teachers, sports teams and students, as we cannot possibly be at every event. If you have a photo you want to run, please include a photo caption identifying those in the image from left to right and a description of the event. Please call or e-mail the editor directly with your school event coverage requests at least three days in advance. If we can't attend, you are always encouraged to send in your own write-up and photos.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

OPINION

We love letters to the editor and guest columns. It is what the soul of this newspaper is all about. However, we don't print what we can't prove. All letters and columns must be signed and confirmed by us prior to publication. If you are alleging things that we cannot prove, we will consider that a news tip and look into it. We always encourage readers to celebrate their communities versus just slamming them. We also pen a weekly "editorial." Some readers confuse editorials with being objective "news." Our unsigned editorials are opinions formed after doing the research, or compiled through our reporters' stories and other means. We then write opinions, which do take a definitive side on issues. Editorials are not meant to be balanced to both sides like our news stories should. They are intended to opine around the facts and take a position. That's the whole point of the "opinion" page.

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

SPORTS

Our Sports Editor Dave Forbes and his reporters and photographers cover select varsity school games weekly as well as youth and adult sports leagues. Our team tries to be fair and spread the coverage around to all the teams, but as playoffs approach, teams making the playoffs take more precedence. We have tried hard this year to expand our coverage of youth sports, but we need coaches and players to send in their photos and write-ups. You can e-mail Dave Forbes at dforbes@turley.com.

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BUSINESS

GRAND OPENING



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Mayor Richard A. Cohen, center, was on hand at a ribbon-cutting ceremony held July 18 at the grand opening of the B.E. Fit Personal Training Studio, located at 360 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

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COOL POOL

AGAWAM — The Perry Lane Pool in Agawam is a summer hot spot for babies, children, adults and seniors. The public pool is open daily in the summer for Perry Lane campers, public swim, and swim lessons. For a detailed schedule and further information visit, <http://www.agawam.ma.us>

Lifeguard, Steven DeMont ensures safety during Monday's public swim.



Ava Levesque raises Melena St. Jacques into the air as Lauren Champigny (left) and Abigail Potito (right) look on.

Miah Murchison, 7, of Agawam readjusts her bright goggles.



Lauren Champigny feels on top of the world with help from Ava Levesque.

Olivia Polevoy, 4, refuels with a bag of Cheetos.

Emily Ivanov, 8, of Agawam adventurously slides into the refreshing water.

AGAWAM NEWS PHOTOS BY KIM HATCH



From left, Lauren Champigny, Melena St. Jacques, Ava Levesque and Abigail Potito are all smiles.



Agawam 'enters the Haggis' once more for SummerFest 2014

HAGGIS, from page 1

band's logo — a screaming face resembling a bagpipe — dotting the audience. Those fans included Casey Gordon and Jackie Hennessey, who secured front row seats.

"I've been a fan for eight years," Gordon said as the first set ended. "I got into them when I was looking for a certain song and found their version of it on iTunes and loved it."

"My first concert was a few months ago," Hennessey added. "(Gordon) took me, and I just really got into them after that."

Formed in 1996 out of Toronto, Canada, the band currently made up of lead singer Brian Buchanan, guitarist Trevor Lewington, bassist Mark Abraham, drummer Bruce McCarthy and multi-instrumentalist (including bagpipes) Craig Downie, plays a special brand of folk rock infused with Celtic and soul genres. The band typically tours across North America and Europe while releasing their albums, but with their schedule taking them from Disney to Ireland this coming, Agawam is always a stop thanks to the Park and Recreation department and Agawam Cultural Council reaching out to them according to McCarthy.

"It feels good to be back," the drummer said. "We always get a welcomed-feeling when we're here. I don't even know exactly how long but we've been playing in this area. It may not always be on a Wednesday like this, per say, but they're great about contacting us and letting us know that they'd like to have us back again, and we always work out the formalities."

Playing rock songs to soulful ballads, Haggis played for more than two hours, including an encore and a promise to come again next year from Buchanan, before sitting down and meeting with fans for autographs after the show finished. They would stay for another half hour before heading off to Utica, New York, the next day for a charity show.

As the band makes its way to their next venue, SummerFest continues this Wednesday, July 30, as Steppin' Out, a six-piece band playing swing from the 40's to modern dance music takes the stage following the blues and rock band, Built For Comfort, on the July 23.

SummerFest, a yearly Agawam tradition, is scheduled to go until Aug. 13 with all shows starting at 7 p.m. and held outdoors on Veterans Green at 689 Main St. in front of Phelps Elementary School. In the case of inclement weather, concerts will be shifted to the Agawam Junior High School's air-conditioned auditorium on Springfield St.

Sponsors of the free 2014 concert series include: Agawam Advertiser/Turley Publications, Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Lions Club, Agawam Parks & Recreation, Agawam Rotary Club, Allied Flooring & Paint, Berkshire Power, Bolduc's Apparel, Canary Blomstrom Insurance Agency, Easthampton Savings Bank, FC Stars of Massachusetts, Hampden Bank, Holyoke Credit Union, King Ward Coach Lines, Lucia Lumber, Main Street Deli, Moren Signs, Olympic Manufacturing Group, Quality Auto, Reminder Publications, Republic Services, Sarat Ford, Ski Blanford, Westfield Bank, and WMAS 94.7.



Enter the Haggis merchandise was readily available throughout the night.



Ballads ruled the night as Craig Downie, Bruce McCarthy, Brian Buchanan, Mark Abraham and Trevor Lewington took the stage as Enter the Haggis.



From the left, Casey Gordon, Becca Wood and Jackie Hennessey enjoy their front row seats.



Enter the Haggis band member Craig Downie rolls out the bagpipes as Brian Buchanan strums on.

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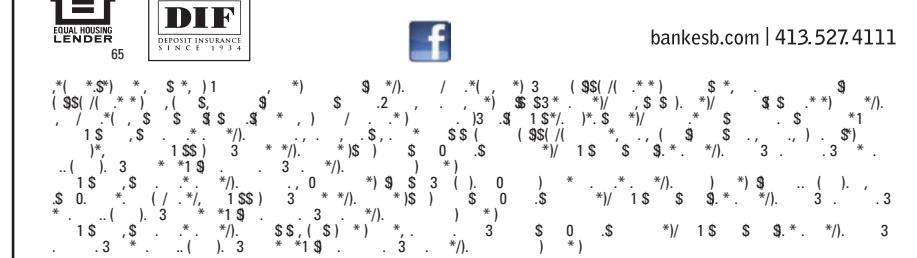
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SPORTS



Murphy, McGuill help West to gold medal

WALTHAM - Sarah Carron, Tamara Nicholson and Katie Cronin, all of Agawam and Feeding Hills, were members of the gold medal winning West Region Girls Soccer team at the Bay State Games on Sunday, July 20.

The West team came from behind in the second half to tie the score on a goal from Lauren Aldrich (Hampshire Regional). Then came the game winner with a minute left in double overtime, a golden goal scored on a break away by Isabella Eduardo (Chicopee High School). Final score was a 2-1 win for the West.

The Duseau sisters of Conway (Rebekah and Brianna) (Northfield Mt.

Please see GAMES, page 13



Turley Publications submitted photo

Sarah Carron, Tamara Nicholson and Katie Cronin, all of Agawam and Feeding Hills, were members of the gold medal winning West Region Girls Soccer team at the Bay State Games on Sunday, July 20.

Agawam rallies to overtake Ware

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD – In the opening game of the Pee Wee Reese A Division State Tournament, Ware was able to jump out to a lead against Agawam show the ability to beat one of the favorites in the tournament.

But unfortunately, the two first-inning runs were all the Indians could muster as Agawam struck for 10 unanswered runs for a 10-2 victory last Friday night at Peter Picknelly Field at

Forest Park in Springfield.

In the top of the first, Ware was able to get things going against Agawam starting pitcher Tyshaun Diaz.

Dillan Slattery led off the game by working a walk. He would move up to second on a wild pitch. James Berthiaume sent a long fly ball to deep left field, but the ball was caught for the first out.

Aiden Clark came up to the plate, and took a two-strike pitch out of the ballpark, muscling a pitch to the opposite field in

Please see YOUTH, page 13

Lady Brownies battle for top spot

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – On Wednesday night, the Agawam A Division girls soccer team was scheduled to fight to clinch the top seed in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League playoffs.

It would be the first time in many years Agawam would find themselves at the top of the field in the 40-year soccer league.

Agawam was scheduled to face Belchertown Wednesday evening and then await their quarterfinal opponent on Tuesday.

Agawam has gone 7-0-1 since

the first game of the regular season. Coach Bill Scherpa has a deep roster of 27 players on the team, including several returning varsity players that have been giving Agawam a boost this summer.

The key to success on this summer team has been the defense, Scherpa says.

"These girls have been playing defense together for a long time," said Scherpa. "They know what they need to do and they do a great job keeping the ball away from our goalies."

Scherpa says both goalies have been outstanding this summer.

Please see BROWNIES, page 13

Reds topple Gators in finals

Agawam rallies from four-run deficit

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD – The Agawam Gators lost to Enfield in the finals of the Pee Wee Reese A Division State Tournament 15-12 on Monday night at Peter Picknelly Field in Springfield.

Agawam fought all the way back down 9-6, and 12-8 to tie the game 12-12 in the sixth inning.

Then the Gators allowed a run in the top of the six and two in the seventh. The offense was not able to get anything past as Agawam lost the state championship game.

Agawam was scheduled to fight for their league championship in John L. Sullivan on Wednesday night against the Rockhounds.

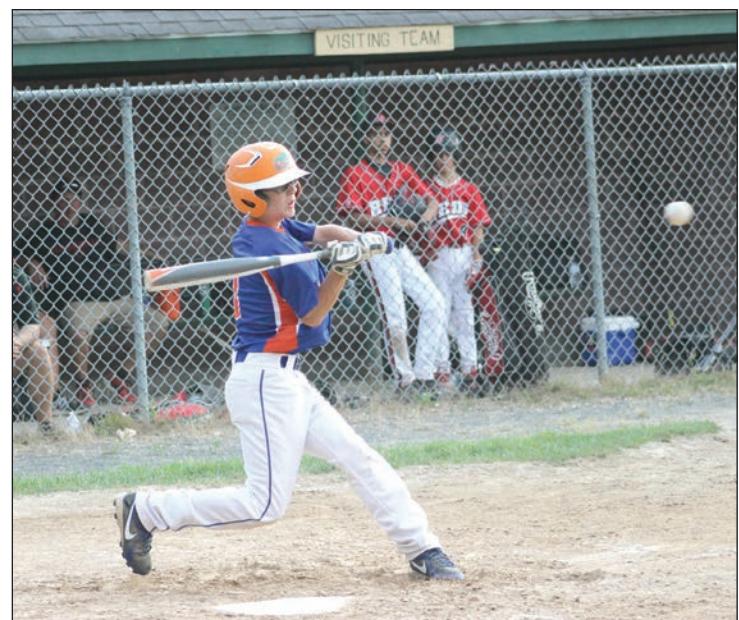
It was the second time Agawam had lost against Enfield in the tournament, which was a double-elimination style format.

Trailing 12-8, Agawam was able to bat around in the bottom of the fifth.

Zach Moccio led off the inning with a walk. Kyle Grabowski would single to left putting runners at first and second.

Kian O'Keefe came to the plate and fouled off several pitches. A few of those fouls were well over home run distance. But O'Keefe would end up working a walk to load the bases. One out later, Nick Toma walked to bring in a run and make it 12-9. Dom Ledoux also walked, making it 12-10.

Eric Chimelewski would send



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
Eric Chimelewski socks a base hit to left for the Agawam Gators in Monday's championship game loss against the Enfield Reds.



Pitcher Zach Moccio throws to first after fielding a bunt.

a ground ball single in the gap between third base and shortstop. The shortstop field the ball and tried to

get the out at first, but threw the ball away. Two runs scored on the play to tie the game.

The game was wild from the beginning, with Enfield scoring in each of the first three innings to have an 8-7 lead after three. Enfield would get a run in the fourth.

With the loss, Agawam will play their championship game and then move on to their upcoming Cooperstown (N.Y.) Tournament. Agawam has been sending a youth team to Cooperstown for several years. The team will play several games in a pool against teams from all over the country. Other teams, including the Enfield Reds will also be involved with the same tournament. The team departs on

Please see BASEBALL page 13

GOLF CALENDAR

Ziemian Tournament set for Aug. 2

BELCHERTOWN - The Matt Ziemian Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2 at the Cold Spring Country Club.

Matt passed away in 2012 after a courageous battle with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Come out and enjoy a day with friends and family to honor Matt while playing the game he loved. All proceeds will benefit The Jimmy Fund.

The tournament is a scramble format with registration that begins at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at 12 p.m.

The cost for this event is \$110 per player and includes golf, cart, lunch, and dinner. There will be raffles and prizes for longest drive, most accurate drive, and hole in one challenges. Non-golfers are welcome to join us for dinner for only \$30.

Please make checks payable to the Matt Ziemian Benefit Fund and mail to Dave Ziemian, 9 Old Farm Road, Palmer, MA 01069.

Pre-registration and payment for your foursome is appreciated to be received by July 26.

For any questions, please contact Dave or Sharon Ziemian at 413-283-8070 or Russ Lloyd at 413-222-4059.

Polish American Citizens Club to hold annual golf outing

LUDLOW - The Polish American Citizens Club of Ludlow will hold its annual golf outing Sunday, Aug. 24 at Westover Golf Club.

This will be a scramble format with double shotgun starts at 7 a.m. and 12 p.m.

This golf tournament is open to the

public and women are encouraged to play. The cost of this event is \$85 per person, which includes golf, cart, dinner and refreshments back at the club. Hole-in-one contests are also included.

Your chance to win \$5000, golf clubs, Bose Wave Radio, or \$500 cash card. Proceeds from this event are used

for our youth scholarships.

Sign up sheets are available at the club located at 355 East St.

Deadline for signups is Aug. 16.

For more information you may contact the club at 413-583-6385 or John Diotalevi at 433-1901.

YOUTH, from page 12

right-center to give Ware a 2-0 lead.

In the bottom of the first, Agawam got a run back with a walk, stolen base, and two passed balls to help the team get within one run.

Still up 2-1, Devon Fuller was able to reach on a walk, and made it all the way to third base on a pair of wild pitches. He was stranded at third base and Ware was denied in the third, fourth, and fifth as Agawam settled down.

Still leading 2-1, Agawam was able to get a huge boost, throwing out a would-be basestealer to end a threat. Agawam also loaded the bases in the fourth inning, but Ware escaped.

Agawam finally broke through in the fifth inning, getting all 10 of their runs. Agawam went through eight hitters before a batter was retired on a groundout. In the eighth-run inning, Agawam started by having their leadoff batter reach on an error. The bases were loaded on two walks, and a double by Kian O'Keefe plated a pair of runs. A hit batter reloaded the bases. Nick Toma had a double to drive in a pair of runs, and a pair of walks also forced in runs.

With a 10-2 lead, Agawam was able to finish the game by the eight-run mercy-rule with one out in the inning.

Andy Pelc had bases loaded walk, and then Kyle Grabowski socked a single scoring two more runs to end the game.

Ware would go on to lose in the consolation bracket.

Ware represented the Tri-Town League in the tournament. Agawam was an entrant from the John L. Sullivan League.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

BROWNIES, from page 12

Returning varsity starter Becca Uschmann has been splitting time with junior varsity goalie Jenna Beach.

"They have each been playing a half every game this summer," said Scherpa. "They have given up maybe five goals this season. They have done an excellent job."

Scherpa says Beach has done a good job and has a chance this fall to be the backup behind Uschmann. Uschmann was the primary goalie for Agawam all of last season. Agawam did make the tournament and lost in a preliminary round game against Longmeadow in a shootout.

Anchoring the defense this summer has been the combination of Katie Grasso, Lindsay Wassung, Brittany Busco, and Katie Martin. In the midfield, Ally Stuetzel, Jackie Nielsen, Kristina Lemire, and Katie Humisten have all seen significant time.

Sarah Caron, Sarah Graves, and Jill Scherpa are the main returning varsity forwards.

Agawam High School Athletics to host 20th Annual Golf Tournament in September

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School Athletic Department invites the public to save the date and participate in its 20th annual golf tournament to be held Saturday, Sept. 27 at Oak Ridge Country Club.

This tournament raises money to help support the athletes and coaches of the Agawam High School programs. Student athletes do not pay fees at Agawam High School as some do in other communities. Please join us for an enjoyable day and support a good cause.

Specific details/information will be released soon. If you would like to participate as a golfer or sponsor, or donate a raffle prize, please contact Dave Stratton in the Athletic Office at 413-821-0529 or at dstratton@agawampublicschools.org.

for our youth scholarships.

Sign up sheets are available at the club located at 355 East St.

Deadline for signups is Aug. 16.

For more information you may contact the club at 413-583-6385 or John Diotalevi at 433-1901.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

John Soltys tries to throw on to first after getting a force at second.

Scherpa says his team has not scored a lot of goals this summer, but the extra possession thanks to good defense has allowed them to come away with wins.

"We have not shot the ball very well," said Scherpa. "We have had some trouble finishing goals. But when you possess the ball on the other half of the field for a lot of the game, you end up finding the goal at some point."

Agawam only suffered one loss, against Ludlow, in the opening game of the summer. Ludlow has a 7-2 record, second behind Agawam's 7-1-1 mark. Scherpa believes the championship game may come down to Agawam and Ludlow.

The PVSSL playoffs are scheduled for next week, with playoff games scheduled for Tuesday, Thursday, and the finals on Saturday at Luistano Stadium in Ludlow.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Soccer building momentum

Surging in popularity

By Dave Forbes
Turley Publications Sports Staff Writer

WEST BROOKFIELD - For many sports fans in the United States, soccer on the grandest stage comes to the forefront once every four years when the World Cup rolls around.

Much of the rest of the time, the sport receives much less attention than what our commonly referred to as the core four in New England — baseball, basketball, American football and hockey.

However, Challenger Sports British-style soccer camp coordinator Chris Coleman thinks that is starting to change.

"I see more Americans that getting more and more into the sport every year," Coleman said. "They are watching more of the sport because it is more available on television now and we have more children taking part in the sport. I think it is possible that in the next 20 years that the United States will win the World Cup."

Coleman, who lives in England and played soccer for several years before an injury forced him to retire, said that he had an amazing experience watching this year's World Cup here in the United States.

"I was in Chicago when the United States played in our of their World Cup matches," he said. "I went to match the match at the Chicago Fire's stadium [a Major League Soccer venue] and the amount of passion for the game and cheering for the United States was just amazing."

Coleman said what impressed him most about this year's squad was the play of goalie Tim Howard, who finished with an amazing 23 saves in their quarterfinal loss to Argentina.

"He just put together an incredible performance with all the stops that he made," Coleman said. "Without him, that match would not have been close as it was. They also made an incredible comeback in that game."

Coleman hopes that the momentum from the World Cup will continue to build throughout the United States through the youth leagues straight up to the top league in the States, which is the MLS.

"I hope that people see how fun and exciting the game can be and that it continues to learn and grow," Coleman said. "If that happens, that will be great for the sport here in the United States."

Dave Forbes is the sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or by calling 413-967-3505 ext. 106.

GAMES, from page 12

Hermon) anchored the defense splitting playing time at goalkeeper in the finals. Fantastic team effort by all players, very proud of the West girls.

The girls came out of the round robin games at 2-1-2, as the second seed. Came from behind in the final two games to gain the results needed to reach the gold medal game for the sixth year in a row.

BASEBALL, from page 12

Friday.

In the Pee Wee Reese Tournament, Agawam beat Ware 10-2 on Friday night, lost to the Reds 9-6 on Saturday morning, and came back to beat the Falcons 13-5. On Sunday, Agawam fought their way to the state championship game beating the Rockhounds 10-9 in nine innings, and then the Titans 18-16.

"It was a very high-scoring tournament," said Tom Lingenberg, a coach on the Gators. "But we have a good team and we fought hard in every game."

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

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Obituary

DEATH NOTICE

Roberts, Patricia H.

Died July 14, 2014

Memorial Service July 18, 2014

Quail Run Estates Chapel

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

St. David's to host free rock concert

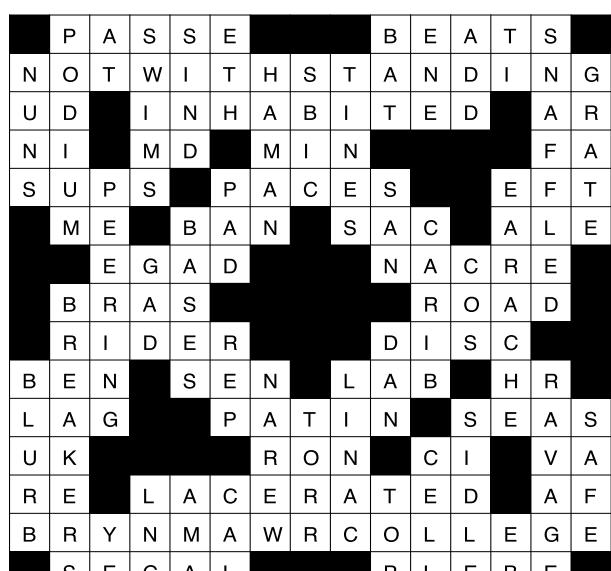
St. David's Episcopal Church, located at 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a free "Classic Rock Concert" featuring the Charlie Galvin Band, Saturday, July 26, from 6-8 p.m.

The band, back by popular demand, will perform on the side lawn of the church. Those in attendance are invited to bring food, drink and a lawn chair or blanket. Free parking and restrooms are available. The public is invited.

Crafters wanted for upcoming fair

The First Congregational Church, at the rotary in East Longmeadow, is now accepting applications for its Christmas Collection Craft Fair scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 1, from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. With over 800 in attendance last year, crafters can be assured that their products will receive maximum exposure.

Applications are available at www.churchontherotary.org/activities/forms/ or call Sandy at 525-7511.



Openings available at 'International Spy Academy!'

Bethany Assembly of God, located at 580 Main St., Agawam, will hold its Vacation Bible School, "International Spy Academy!" Monday, July 28, through Friday, Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to noon for children ages 3 to 12.

Participants will be searching for clues and evidence to find the "One True God." Through "Agent-In-Action" games and classified drafts, the

children will have hands-on activities to reinforce the lesson they learned at ISA headquarters. Each day there will be a continuing drama where special agents will search for the original copy of the Constitution, while trying to uncover counterfeits and avoid the agents from the secret order known as "Venom!" The special agents find foes in unlikely places as their assignment takes unexpected twists and

turns. The children will get their own spy kit with their own secret agent identification card so they can join in the fun and intrigue.

There will be a special program with highlights of the week, great songs and a wrap-up of the drama Friday at 6:30 p.m. with light refreshments following.

Those that have not pre-registered may come early on Monday morning.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main St., Agawam
786-7111
Interim Pastor: Rev. Tom Howells
Agawam1@verizon.net
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.
"A place to call home ~ A people to call family"

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills
413-786-4174
Pastor: Ken Blanchard
agawamumc@gmail.com
agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Communion on the first and third Sunday of the month.
Coffee and fellowship hour immediately after worship. Handicap-accessible at front entrance.
Worship at Country Estates Nursing Home: 2nd and 5th Thursdays each month at 11 a.m.
AUMC cooks and serves dinner for the Samaritan Innhomeless shelter on the second Saturday of the month.

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

580 Main St., Agawam
(413) 789-2930
www.bethany-ag.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Christian Education offered during both services.
Nightlife Contemporary Service:
Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION

50 Maple St., Agawam
(413) 304-2313
churchofredeemptionministries.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Summer Schedule
Sunday Service at 10 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

370 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam
(413) 786-1681
www.jesussaves.7@comcast.com
Website: [www.faithbible -church.org](http://www.faithbible-church.org)
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

"An Open and Affirming Congregation."
21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
P.O. Box 264
(413) 786-5061
fhcuccoffice@verizon.net
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
Church School 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Infant and child care provided.
Handicap-accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

760 Main St., Agawam
Agawambc@localnet.com
www.firstbaptistagawam.org

SUNDAY SERVICES
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (grades K - 5)
following Children's Message until 10:45 a.m.
Youth Study time (grades 6+)
following sermon until 10:45 a.m.
Coffee & Conversation following worship every Sunday

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St.
Feeding Hills
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES
Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and Children's Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m.
Children's Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service.
Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the

service.

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Feeding Hills, MA
478-9484
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
(413) 786-8200
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES

Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.;
Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
786-6133
saintdavids@comcast.net
www.stdavidsagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

823 Main St., Agawam
786-8105
info@stjohn evangelistchurch.org
www.stjohagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturdays: 4 p.m. & 6 p.m. (Labor Day to Memorial Day)
Saturdays: 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Weekdays - Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m.
Thursday - Communion Service

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote "free" events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, July 25

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will host a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Fire Dept., 800 Main St. Blood and platelet donations are needed every day for patients with many serious medical conditions. To make an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Saturday, July 26

A FALLSFEST MUSIC FESTIVAL will take place at Beachgrounds Park, 116 Main St., South Hadley Falls. The event is free but non-perishable food items for Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry are welcome. For more information, visit www.shfallsfest.com or call (413) 219-5577.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND will celebrate "Christmas in July." Santa will arrive between noon and 3 p.m. and will have treats for everyone. "Maggie the Clown" will be making candy cane balloon sculptures and will also have other surprises from 1:30-3:30 p.m. This event is free and open to everyone with rides just \$2 each per person.

THE SPRINGFIELD TURNVEREIN, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, features karaoke every Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. The public is welcome.

Sunday, July 27

A FREE BREAKFAST ON THE LAWN is offered every Sunday at 9 a.m. at Hope Community Church located at 152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills. Everyone is welcome on the "hill" for a good breakfast and good fellowship. For more information, call (413) 786-2445 or email office@hopechurchagawam.org.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND is open Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. The public is invited. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

Tuesday, July 29

THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY will host "The World of Rare Books" for adults at 6:30 p.m. presented by Michael C. Dooling, a rare book collector and dealer for over 35 years. To register, call 789-1550 ext. 4 or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER will host a free movie ("Last Vegas") at 12:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND, located in Holyoke's Heritage State Park, once again offers "2 for Tuesdays" where two riders can ride for the price of one. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

Wednesday, July 30

STEPPIN' OUT WILL PERFORM at the free SummerFest concert scheduled for 7 p.m. on Veterans Green, 689 Main St., in front of Phelps Elementary School. In case of rain, it will be moved to the air-conditioned auditorium at the Agawam Junior High School at 1305 Springfield St.

THE SPRINGFIELD TURNVEREIN, located at 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, offers Trivia Night every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. The public is invited to come as one or as a team. Subjects include general knowledge, sports, history, music and more. Prizes awarded.

WEDNESDAYS AT THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND, located in Holyoke's Heritage State Park, are "senior" days, when seniors can ride all day for just \$2, and when their grandchildren accompany them, they can ride for just \$1 each per ride. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

Thursday, July 31

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield, will feature "From the Heart" presented by soprano soloist Sonja Funk, as part of its "A Little Night Music" concert series at 6 p.m. It is free and open to the public; food donations accepted. For more information and a complete listing of concerts, visit www.trinityspringfield.org.

UPCOMING AND ONGOING

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The public is invited.

For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

LUNCHTIME LYRICS will take place Friday, Aug. 1, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. Corlene Roberts returns for her fourth season and will play her guitar at this free event. The public is invited to bring a lunch and enjoy some mid-day music.

FITNESS FIRST HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by Mercy Medical Center Friday, Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver's license with photo or state identification with photo is required to donate blood. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older. To make an appointment, call (413) 786-1460.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD ARTS COUNCIL will host its Fine Arts Festival Saturday, Aug. 2, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. (rain date, Sunday, Aug. 3, same times). Artists from all over the northeast will be exhibiting. Food and music will be a part of this year's festival. Admission is free.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam, offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper Wednesday, Aug. 13, at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.



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TWO GRAVE LOTS, Island Pond Cemetery, Ludlow w/perpetual care. Sec N, lot 10, graves 3 & 4. Call (413)210-6655

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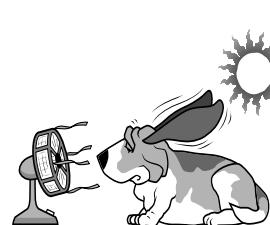
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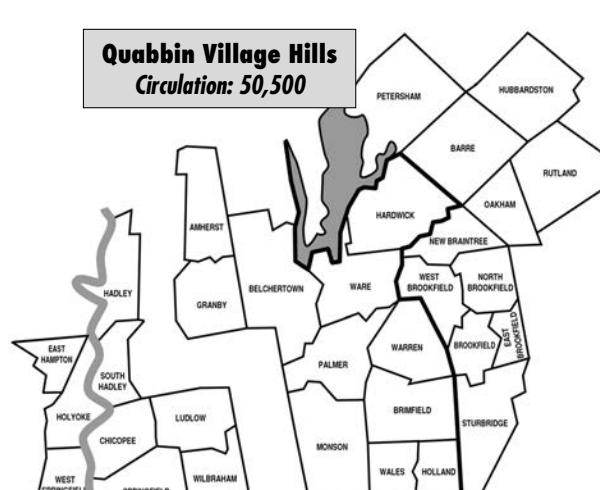
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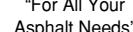
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Your Local Home Pros



SummerFest continues July 30 with 'Steppin' Out'

Steppin' Out, together for 14 years, will provide the entertainment for the next SummerFest concert, scheduled for Wednesday, July 30 at 7 p.m. The band plays a wide variety of music for all occasions, including swing jazz, standards, Top 40, disco, Motown, country and more. There are six permanent members in the band – a female vocalist; a drummer, lead vocalist, a sax player, a keyboardist/vocalist, bassist/vocalist and a guitarist/vocalist.

All the musicians are full-time professionals with extensive club, private function and recording studio experience. The band has developed a reputation as one of the region's most popular, entertaining and professional bands.

Steppin' Out has performed throughout the Northeast, including New York and northern New Jersey. The band's schedule includes engagements ranging from weddings, corporate events, festivals and clubs. The band owns and operates a professional sound system, lights and other production

insuring a consistent quality show.

All SummerFest shows are held on Veterans Green, 689 Main St., in front of Phelps Elementary School. In case of rain, concerts will be moved to the air-conditioned auditorium at the Agawam Junior High School at 1305 Springfield St.

The 2014 concerts are brought to the public free of charge by the following corporate sponsors: Agawam Advertiser/Turley Publications, Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Lions Club, Agawam Parks & Recreation, Agawam Rotary Club, Allied Flooring & Paint, Berkshire Power, Bolduc's Apparel, Canary Blomstrom Insurance Agency, Easthampton Savings Bank, FC Stars of Massachusetts, Hampden Bank, Holyoke Credit Union, King Ward Coach Lines, Lucia Lumber, Main Street Deli, Moren Signs, Olympic Manufacturing Group, Quality Auto, Reminder Publications, Republic Services, Sarat Ford, Ski Blandford, Westfield Bank, and WMAS 94.7.



Turley Publications courtesy photo
'Steppin' Out' will perform Wednesday, July 30 at the "SummerFest" concert held at Veterans Green in Agawam.

Planning office begins second phase of redevelopment project

AGAWAM – The Agawam Office of Planning and Community Development is currently working on the second phase of a multi-phase project to provide support and redevelopment opportunities to the business and property owners in the Walnut Street Extension shopping area.

Phase one was completed in early summer when the city council approved the Mixed Use Business C District designation. The Business C District allows for greater flexibility in the redevelopment of designated properties as well as encouraging uniformity of design and better pedestrian access. The second phase will explore parking and pedestrian issues ultimately resulting in the town seeking funding to make infrastructure improvements.

As one of the first steps in determining the parking needs of the businesses located on Walnut Street Ext., a parking survey has been sent to approximately 50 businesses located in this shopping area. Businesses have been

asked to identify their number of employees, average number of customers per hour, number of parking spaces currently available and the number of parking spaces needed. Input has also been requested concerning a number of options for improving the existing parking. Completed surveys should be returned to the planning office by Aug. 1.

Mayor Richard A. Cohen has also appointed a five-member advisory committee consisting of professional staff and residents. The advisory committee will provide guidance to the planning office and staff of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in undertaking this phase of the project. The planning commission's assistance is being provided through the commission's District Local Technical Assistance Program.

A number of public informational forums will be held during the fall. For more information, contact the planning office at 786-0400, ext. 8738.

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LUSO is proud to announce their 24/7 Lending Experience

Luso Federal Credit Union is proud to announce the appointment of Justin Calheno as Lending Sales Manager, the most recent addition to the Credit Union's lending team. Justin is a life-long resident of Ludlow, where he currently resides with his wife Christine. Justin is a graduate of Ludlow High School and Westfield State University and comes to Luso with over 12 years of lending experience in both consumer and real estate loans, eight years effectively managing sales teams and he has worked his last two years as an outside mortgage broker.

Justin will be providing members with the 24/7 lending experience... available day or night, weekday or weekend, and 100% committed to serving your needs!"

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Lending Sales Manager

Justin J. Calheno

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Drive-thru Hours: Monday - Wednesday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Thursday - Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm; Saturday 8:00 am- 1:00 pm